

Prayers of the Faithful  
For the Federal Association of the Order of Malta

The Prayers of the Faithful (also known as the Intercessions or Petitions) at a Eucharistic celebration express the needs of the assembly. Thus, it is appropriate that the people who are gathering to celebrate the Eucharist write their own Prayers of the Faithful so that immediate needs (such as help for victims of a natural disaster or for friends who are ill or have died) are included in the Prayers. Sometimes, however, people prefer to use “standard” Prayers. In response to this need, the Spirituality Committee has written the following Prayers that can be used when members of the Order of Malta gather to celebrate the Eucharist. Those planning Malta Eucharistic celebrations should feel free to add intercessions to, or delete intercessions from, these Prayers, or to edit them so that they will better reflect the needs of the particular group that is gathering to celebrate the Eucharist.

Celebrant:

Let us direct our prayer to God our Father who has placed us under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin of Philermos, St. John the Baptist, Blessed Fra' Gerard and all the saints.

Lector:

The response for the prayers is: "Lord, hear our prayer" [or another response that the assembly chooses].

For the Church – that our Lord Jesus Christ will always protect it, and for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, that he will always be assured of our prayers. Let us pray to the Lord

For a generous and ever-growing response to the universal call to holiness in the hearts of the members of our Order and our allied orders, and for an increase in vocations, especially to consecrated life as Knights of Justice. For the Grand Master and all those in positions of leadership in the Order. Let us pray to the Lord.

For the members of the Order of Malta – that we may be filled with constancy, strength and zeal to witness to Christ's saving presence in the world, and that we will nurture, witness to, and protect the faith. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all who are sick in mind or body or suffering from disability or the effects of ageing – especially our beloved malades and their companions and for members of our Order and their families – that they may experience God's abiding love as they travel their life's journey. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all those impacted by crime – for victims, for the incarcerated, for corrections officers, and for family members – that they may all receive God's outpouring of love, mercy and understanding. Let us pray to the Lord.

For those most in need of God's love – the poor, the sick, the hungry, the abused, the addicted, and those forced to flee from their homes by war, violence and natural disasters. Let us pray to the Lord.

For the dead, especially for deceased members of our Order and their families, and for malades who have died this past year. [In particular, we pray for N. and N.] Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant:

Lord God, we ask you to assist the Order that you raised up in Jerusalem, so that the defense of the faith and serving the needs of the sick and the poor may always flourish within it as the identifying mark of its members. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.